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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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\$65 million in contracts launch transformation of Wilford Hall Medical Center into the Defense Department's largest outpatient facility

FORT WORTH, TEXAS – The project to replace Wilford Hall Medical Center on Lackland Air Force Base has begun with the awarding of two contracts worth \$65.8 million for the first phase of construction of the new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Care Center. This replacement facility will provide an expanded level of outpatient surgical and clinical services. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District awarded the contracts to J.E. Dunn Construction, which operates a regional office in Austin and is headquartered in Kansas City.

The initial phase of the project involves building a Primary Care Center, central energy plant, and a 1,000 space parking structure. Three subsequent phases will focus on constructing a Diagnostic, Surgical, and Therapeutic Services Center and associated support spaces, as well as demolishing the 53-year old Wilford Hall Medical Center. Construction of the parking garage is scheduled to begin in early 2011, while work is expected to begin on the Primary Care Center in the summer of 2011. Completion of the entire project is anticipated in 2017. The 681,000 square foot complex will be the largest outpatient clinic in the Department of Defense.

The new facility will incorporate sustainability according to the standards necessary to achieve a minimum of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification. LEED is a national "green" building rating and certification program administered by the U.S. Green Building Council in Washington, D.C. to promote improved environmental and human health performance.

Construction of the complex ultimately will result in the inpatient and civilian trauma care services currently provided at Wilford Hall being transferred to Brooke Army Medical Center on Fort Sam Houston. A Department of Defense analysis determined that Wilford Hall Medical Center was not optimally configured or technologically equipped to function as the main military outpatient facility in San Antonio without substantial renovations. Due to the expense of the necessary upgrades, the analysis concluded that building a new ambulatory clinic would be more cost-effective than refurbishing the existing medical center.

The Wilford Hall Ambulatory Care Center will deliver medical services to more than 57,000 active duty personnel, military dependents, and retirees and provide a platform for more than 40 outpatient clinics and services and 30 accredited Graduate Medical Education training programs. It will also serve as the primary facility for two of the nation's largest residency programs in Dermatology and Ophthalmology.

-30-

About the Fort Worth District: The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and design and construction at all military installations in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District website at: www.swf.usace.army.mil.

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